

RIMPAC 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Media Invited to Cover



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Rim of the Pacific 2004 Event

The following media opportunity is available for coverage of Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2004, the region's largest international maritime exercise, taking place through July 27 in the waters around the Hawaiian Islands.

*****Sunday, 18 July*****

HSV-2 SWIFT

PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII --The Navy's newest high-speed catamaran is currently participating in Rim of the Pacific 2004 (RIMPAC 04), a large international maritime exercise in the waters around the Hawaiian Islands.

High Speed Vessel (HSV) 2 SWIFT, home ported in Ingleside, Texas, and manned by two rotational crews (Ingleside, Texas, and Norfolk, Va.), has joined more than 40 other ships, seven submarines, over 100 aircraft and almost 18,000 sailors, airmen, Marines, soldiers and coastguardsmen for this year's exercise. The event also brings together maritime forces from five other Pacific Rim nations (Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan and Republic of Korea) and the United Kingdom.

For RIMPAC 04, SWIFT is being used as the operational platform for underwater mine countermeasures (UMCM) assets: Navy Special Clearance Team One (NSCT-1) and the Battle space Preparation Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (BPAUV) owned by the Office of Naval Research.

The BPAUV is a small, fast underwater robot that maps the ocean bottom near the shore, detects changes in inshore conditions, and hunts mines. This will be the second exercise in which the underwater vehicle will be employed from SWIFT.

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Media representatives will have an opportunity to tour the HSV-2 inport and interview the Command Officer and HSV crewmembers on Sunday, July 18 at 9 a.m. The tour will take approximately 2 hours. Media that are interested in covering this exercise should call 619-726-9945 or 808-478-7360 to R.S.V.P. no later than July 17.